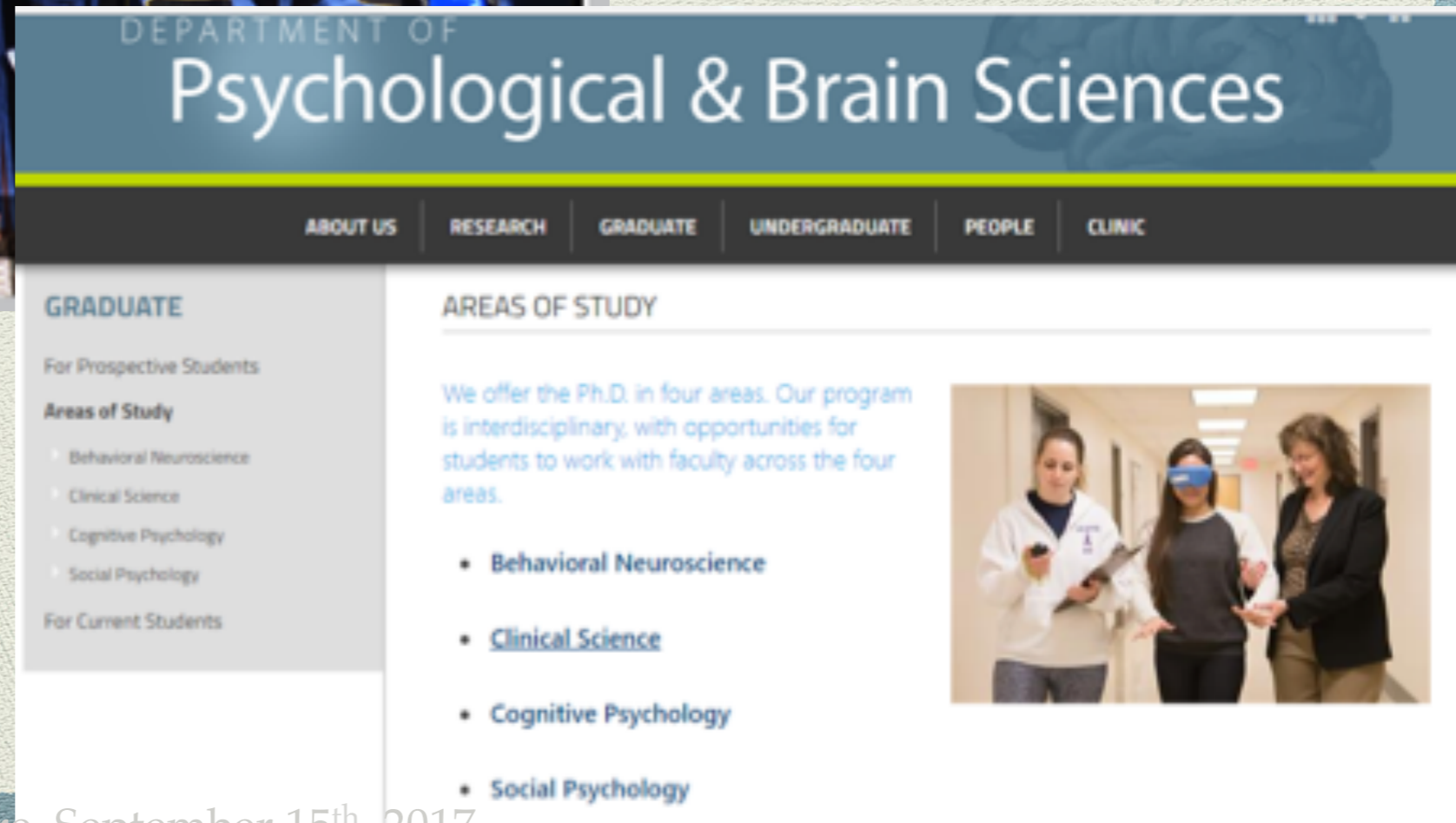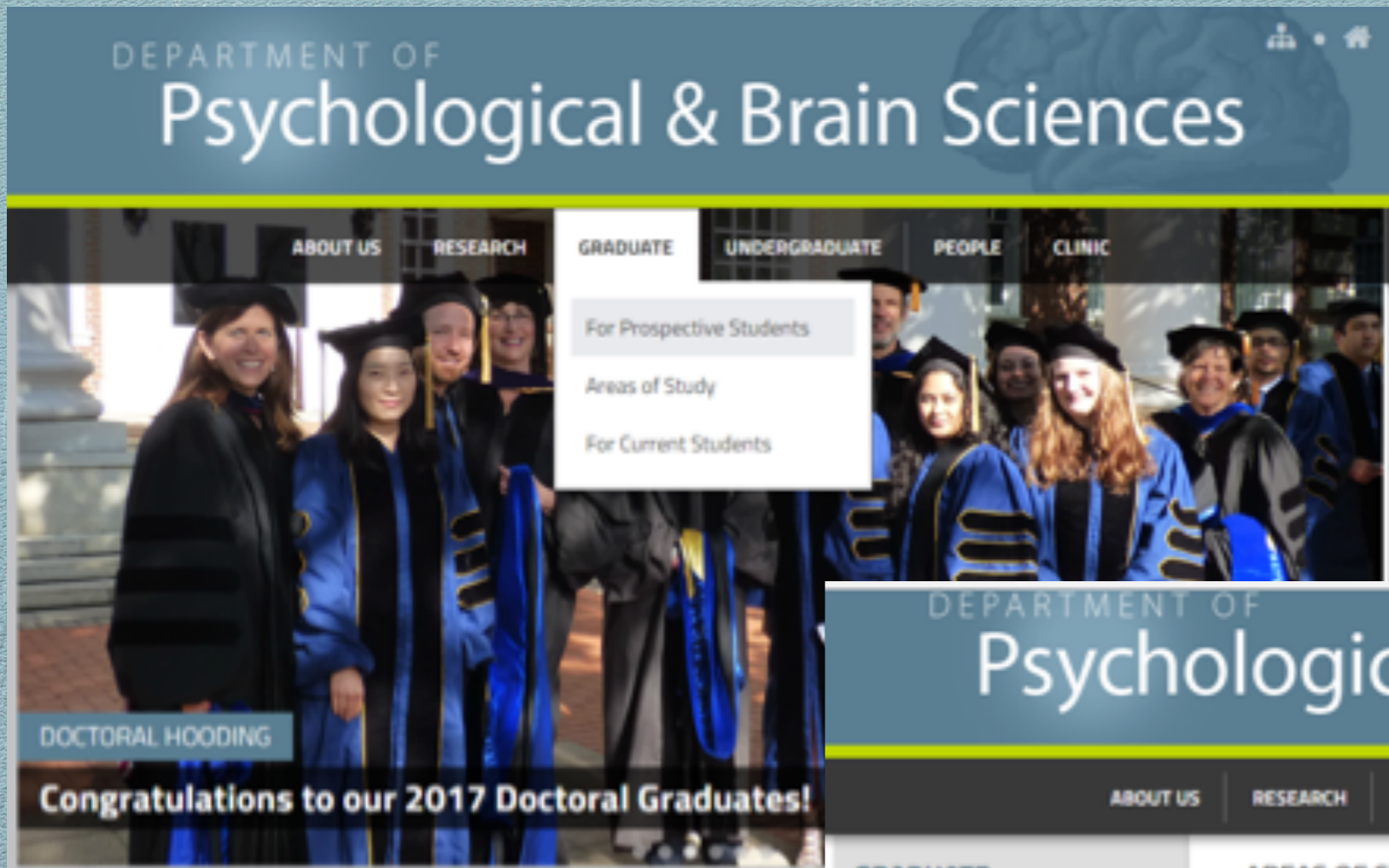# Clinical Science Application Process

Christiana Martin & Melanie Matyi

Exploring Program Sites

GRADUATE

For Prospective Students

Areas of Study

   ▸ Behavioral Neuroscience

   ▾ Clinical Science

      Nature and goals of the program

      Synopsis of the program

      Coursework

      ▾ **Admission to the program**

         Students with Master's Degrees

      Student admissions, outcomes, and other data

      Practicum training

      Psychological Services Training Center

      Faculty

      Graduate Students

   ▸ Cognitive Psychology

   ▸ Social Psychology

For Current Students

ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM

Application Deadlines and Information

Students are admitted to the Clinical Science Program to work toward a Ph.D. degree. This is a full-time program, and we do not offer a terminal master's degree. Applications are due in the Graduate Admissions Office by **December 15** for enrollment the following September. There are no spring semester admissions in the Clinical Science Program. Application materials are to be submitted on the **Graduate and Professional Education** website.

Please direct questions about the website to the **Graduate and Professional Education Office** numbers listed on the site.

Requirements

The Clinical Science Program is especially interested in receiving applications from individuals who have previous research experience. Students with a strong motivation and interest in research, as well as some undergraduate experience in research, fit well with the program. Familiarity with computers, and the ability to use statistical software packages for data analysis, facilitate students' progress in the program. Although not required, a background in Psychology is helpful, especially courses in Research Design and Statistics.

Scores on the **Verbal, Quantitative,** and **Analytic (Written)** sections of the **Graduate Record Examination (GRE)** are required. The advanced psychology test is helpful but not required.

The application on the **Graduate and Professional Education** website requires **a personal essay**, which should describe your interest in clinical psychology, your research interests, and your fit with the program and with a particular faculty mentor or mentors. You are also asked to submit your **GRE scores**, **transcripts**, **curriculum vitae**, and **three letters of recommendation**.

Mentor Selection

One important criterion for admission is the fit between student research interests and those of faculty members in the program. During the admissions process, each student is matched with a faculty research mentor, on the basis of his or her research interests. The mentor trains the student throughout the program in research and helps to plan coursework and practicum training.

The following faculty will be interviewing for new students for Fall 2018:

Mary Dozier

Adele Hayes

J-P Laurenceau

Naomi Sadeh

Jeffrey Spielberg

Student and Program Stats

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE CLINICAL SCIENCE PROGRAM

Student Admissions, Outcomes, and Other Data

Applicant Data

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
# of Applicants	190	184	266	106	117	157	141
# of Applicants Accepted for Admission	12	9	17	1	7	9	7
# of Students in Incoming Class	6	5	9	0	3	4	6
# of Incoming Students Receiving Financial Aid *	6	5	9	0	3	4	6
Average GRE Verbal of Applicants Accepted for Admission	608	626	653	720	163	166	162
Average GRE Quantitative of Applicants Accepted for Admission	682	704	703	800	159	158	157
Average GRE Analytic/Writing of Applicants Accepted for Admission	4.5	5.1	4.72	5.5	5.07	5.1	4.67
Undergraduate GPA of Applicants Accepted for Admission	3.68	3.76	3.66	3.83	3.87	3.89	3.80

Program Costs

Description	2016-2017 1st-year Cohort Cost
Tuition for full-time students (in-state)	Waived: $0
Tuition for full-time students (out-of-state)	Waived: $0
Tuition per credit hour for part-time students (*if applicable*)	Not applicable: $0
University/institution fees or costs	Waived: $0
Additional estimated fees or costs to students (e.g. books, travel, etc.)	$500/year

100% of all students' tuition and fees covered by assistantships or fellowships. For more detailed information on graduate student tuition and fees, please visit

UD Graduate Tuition and Related Fees

Internship placement

- Obtainment

- APA accreditation

Time to Degree Completion

- Look for around 6

Attrition

Licensure

Publication Data

When are you ready to apply to a clinical science program?

- GRE: 310 total
  - Verbal, quantitative and analytic (written)
  - *psychology test is helpful but NOT required
- GPA: 3.5
- *or combination of equal merit

- Research experience and motivation to continue research
- Fit with program and potential advisor
- Background in psychology especially in research design and statistics is helpful

Acquiring Experience

- Opportunities for undergraduate research

  - Research Assistant for a professor

  - Senior/Honors Thesis

  - Independent Research-Look for departmental grants for undergraduate students

- Be on the lookout for opportunities to share your research: Poster sessions at conferences & publications

- Post-Baccalaureate research positions

  - RA in a university research setting

  - Post-Bac Fellowships

  - Master's Program?

- Clinical volunteering experiences

What is included in the application?

- Personal statement
  - Areas of interest
  - Career goals
  - How program will help you reach your goals
  - Research experience (details!)
  - Advisor preference
- 3 Recommendation letters
- Curriculum vitae (CV)
- GRE scores, transcript

Timeline for application

- Deadline is December 15

- September: explore program sites, find programs that fit your interests
  - Possibly contact potential mentors
  - Identify potential letter writers and ask them to recommend you; provide them with any application materials you have ready
- October: refine list of schools to which you want to apply
  - Research potential mentors to which you would like to apply
  - Draft statement(s)
  - Send GRE scores (Oct is latest to take GREs)

Timeline for Application

- November: refine your statement
  - Edit your statement yourself AND have at least one other person give you feedback
  - Touch base with letter writers; if polished enough, send them a draft of your statement
  - Send transcripts to schools
- December: finishing touches
  - Perfect your statement
  - Fill out online portion of application
  - Add recommenders to online application, check that they received the link
  - Preferably before the 15th hit send
  - WAIT
- January: hear back

Example of way to stay organized and on-track

Cost of Applying

Application Fees

For the 2016-2017 application season the application fee is **$75.00**. Waiver categories include those who have participated in the following programs:

- Bridge to the Doctorate Program (BTD)
- **Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP)**
- **McNair Scholar's Program**
- **National GEM Consortium** applicants *
- **National Name Exchange**
- **NIH-INBRE** Internship Program
- **NSF-EPSCoR** Internship Program
- **NSF-Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU)**
- **Project 1000 Scholar** (Download .PDF)
- **GUSHER**
- UD's **College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Summer Institute**
- UD's **NUCLEUS** Program
- UD's **RISE**
- **Delaware Biotechnology Institute Gradwav Program**
- **Age 60 and over**. (Please attach proof of age)
- U.S. Veterans and Active Duty Military or members of th Reserves

If you qualify for one of the fee waiver categories listed above, check the appropriate box for the program on the application and upload a letter from the director of your program confirming your status to the "Additional information" page in your application.

We encourage applicants seeking an application fee waiver to **begin an application** and complete as much as possible without submitting a payment. You may contact the graduate director of the program to which you're applying **here** and send a request with your 9-digit application ID — departments may be able to pay the application fee for you.

If you feel you qualify for a fee waiver for reasons that aren't listed on this Application Fee webpage, contact the Graduate Admissions office (**gradadmissions@udel.edu**).

- Application fee (~$35-85)

- GRE ($205)

- Sending GRE Scores ($27/score recipient)

- Official Transcripts?

- Application fee waivers

- GRE Fee reduction program

BRIDGE Visit Day, University of Delaware, September 15th, 2017

Interview Process

- Invitations generally offered Dec 15-Jan 30

- Interview weekend, interview day, or phone interview

- Travel Arrangements:

  - Usually, graduate students host, transport you during visit

  - You arrange/pay for travel, you arrange/stipend for travel, program arranges and pays

- Interview Day:

  - Interview with potential faculty mentor

  - Interview with 1-2 other faculty

  - Information sessions with department chair, program chair, director of clinical training, etc.

  - individual/paired interviews with grad students in your potential lab

  - "Down time": lunch, breaks between interviews, etc.

Interviews-General Advice

- Respond promptly when setting up interviews

- Program interviews you and you interview them

- Dress professionally

- Competitiveness/Arrogance is a red flag

- Prepare thoroughly for interview with potential mentor, but more generally for other faculty/grad student interviews

- Take notes on your way home—your memory will fade

- After interview, send thank-you emails or notes (everyone you interviewed with, student host, program administrator) within 48-72 hours

Interview Tips

- Practice interviewing before your first interview

- Most answers should be about 30 seconds, if interviewer wants more information, they will ask

- Demonstrate that you understand:

  - Your research (big picture and details)

  - The field you are moving toward

- "Tell me about yourself" = "Tell me about yourself in research and academia

- Show you understand what a career in clinical psychology entails

- When asked about a time you overcame something, solved a problem, etc (behavioral questions):

  - Pick a situation about research or academics

  - Use examples or stories to "show" rather than "tell"— great for all types of questions

- Be prepared to ask your own questions! (Think about the message your questions send)